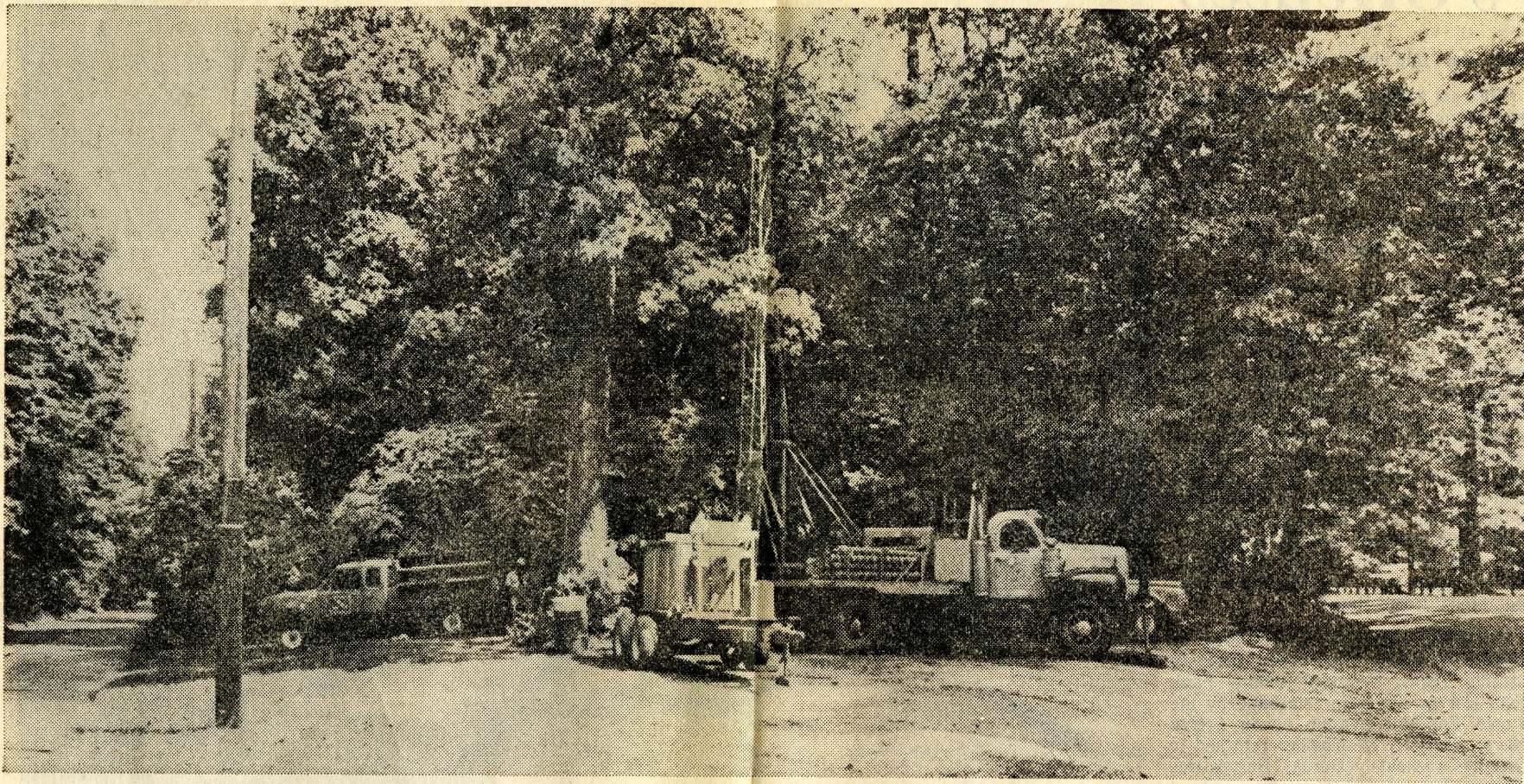


OPE - 24-28



—Staff Photos by Richard Gardner

Overton Park Drilling

Another tentative step is being taken in the long and controversial struggle on whether Interstate 40 will go through Overton Park. Test, Inc., a Memphis firm, is making borings to test soil for information on whether it is suitable for a slurry wall, cut-and-cover tunnel through the park. Dr. W.D. Painter, an engineer and president of Test, Inc., said the project, which started last Wednesday, will take about another week. Four holes will be drilled — one drilled to 155 feet and the others

ranging from 70 to 100 feet. Soil samples are taken every five feet and placed in jars (right). Painter said drillers have found so far: the upper 30-40 feet is soft silt; then gravel down to about 80 feet; then sand to about 140 feet and clay to about 155 feet. He said nothing unusual has been found. His firm is doing the work for Singstad, Kehart, November and Hurka of New York City, which recently was awarded a \$50,000 contract to study the slurry wall tunnel's feasibility.

